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EXAMINER

CHOW, MING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2645

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/455,534

Applicant(s)

ZIRNGIBL ET AL.

Examiner

Ming Chow

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The Information Disclosure Statement is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. PTO policy does not permit the PTO patent documents to link to any live commercial Web sites. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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3. Claims 1, 3, 7, 10, 12, 16, and 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toy (US-PAT-NO: 4,554,418), and in view of Wise et al (US-PAT-NO: 5,884,262).

Regarding claims 1, 10, 19, 20, 21, and 22, Toy teaches on column 9 line 65 “the contact is initiated”. The “contact is initiated” of Toy is the claimed “to initialize a communication”. Toy also teaches on column 6 line 48 “automatic answering device”. The “automatic answering device” of Toy is the claimed “call receiver to accept an inbound communication”. Toy teaches on column 9 line 23 “the necessary control functions associated with the contact sequences may be performed concurrently”. The “control of contact sequence” of Toy is the claimed “control of communications”. Toy failed to teach generating markup documents, a storage device for storing the markup documents, to initialize a voice-enabled communication using the markup documents, to accept an inbound voice-enabled communication, and to control voice-enabled communication using the markup documents. However, Wise et al teach on column 6 line 55 “a searcher returns an unordered list in HTML”. The “return of an unordered list in HTML of Wise et al is the claimed “generating markup documents”. Wise et al also teach on column 7 line 28 “standard formats for the computer files such as full text database”. The database of Wise et al is the claimed “storage device”. Wise et al also teach on column 2 line 9 “a standard file format such as HTML”. The “standard format such as HTML” of Wise et al is the claimed “markup documents”. Wise et al teach on column 4 line 12 “text-to-speech conversion”. The “text-to-speech conversion” of Wise et al is the claimed “voice-enabled communication”. Wise et al teach on column 5 line 48 “call manager”. The “call manager” of Wise et al is the claimed “call receiver to accept an inbound communication”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the

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time the invention was made to modify Toy to generate markup documents, comprise a storage device for storing the markup documents, initialize a voice-enabled communication using the markup documents, accept an inbound voice-enabled communication, and control voice-enabled communication using the markup documents as taught by Wise et al such that the modified system of Toy would be able to support the integrated inbound and outbound voice service to the system users.

Regarding claim 3 and 12, the modified system of Toy in view of Wise et al as stated in claim 1 above failed to teach a parser to extract text from the markup language documents and a text-to-speech engine for converting the extracted text into speech. However, Wise et al teach on column 2 line 29 "the parser". Wise et al also teach on column 2 line 30 "a text-to-speech engine". It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al to parse and extract text from the markup language documents and text-to-speech engine for converting the extracted text into speech as taught by Wise et al such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the parser and text-to-speech engine to the system users.

Regarding claims 7 and 16, the modified system of Toy in view of Wise et al failed to teach the markup language documents comprise TML documents. However, Wise et al teach on column 2 line 9 "a standard document file format, such as HTML, which is used on the World Wide Web. The "HTML" of Wise et al is the claimed "TML". It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al so that the markup language

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documents comprise TML documents as taught by Wise et al such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the TML documents to the system users.

4. Claims 2, 8, 9, 11, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toy and Wise et al as applied to claim 1 above, and in view of Freishtat et al (US-PAT-NO: 5,945,989).

Regarding claims 2 and 11, Toy and Wise et al failed to teach the call server comprises an authentication module operative to authenticate an inbound voice-enabled communication. However, Freishtat et al teach on column 6 line 31 and column 8 line 55 “the PIN is used to authenticate the users and the login is confirmed”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al to comprise an authentication module operative to authenticate an inbound voice-enabled communication as taught by Freishtat et al such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the authentication to the system users.

Regarding claims 8 and 17, the modified system of Toy and Wise et al failed to teach the markup language documents comprise active voice pages. However, Freishtat et al teach on column 6 line 46 “Web Page content allows the user to input graphics, audio, header, text blurbs – any HTML code into the Web Database”. The “Web Page” of Freishtat et al is the claimed “markup language document”. The “audio input” of Freishtat et al is the claimed “active voice page”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al to have the markup language documents comprise active voice pages as taught by

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Freishtat et al such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the active voice pages to the system users.

Regarding claims 9 and 18, the modified system of Toy and Wise et al as stated in claim 1 above failed to teach the markup language documents comprise information accessed from an on-line analytical processing system. However, Freishtat et al teach on column 2 line 34 “an on-line application generator”. The “on-line application generator” of Freishtat et al is the claimed “on-line analytical processing system”. Freishtat et al also teach on column 12 line 59 “a Web based Application generator allows a user to map out a call flow and then assign that call flow to run on a specific 800 number”. The “map out a call” of Freishtat et al is the claimed “information accessed from the on-line analytical processing system”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al to have the markup language documents comprise information accessed from an on-line analytical processing system as taught by Freishtat et al such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the information accessed from an on-line analytical processing system to the system users.

5. Claims 4-6 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toy and Wise et al as applied to claim 1 above, and in view of Speicher (US-PAT-NO: 5,996,006). Regarding claims 4 and 13, Toy and Wiser et al failed to teach a search module operative to search markup language documents in the storage device. However, Speicher teaches on column 5 line 34 “the DBS contains a processor and an SQL (Structural Query Language) relational

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database software. The “SQL database software” of Speicher is the claimed “search module”. Speicher also teaches on column 5 line 21 “Ad database is comprised of files and ad response files”. The “database” of Speicher is the claimed “storage device”. The “ad response files” of Speicher is the claimed “markup language documents”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al to include a search module operative to search markup language documents stored in the storage device as taught by Speicher such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the search module to the system users.

Regarding claims 5 and 14, the modified system of Toy and Wise et al in view of Speicher as stated in claim 4 above failed to teach the search module comprises an SQL engine operative to query the storage device. However, Speicher teaches on column 5 line 34 “the SQL relational database software”. The “SQL relational database software” of Speicher is the claimed “SQL engine”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy, Wise et al, and Speicher to include a search module which comprises an SQL engine as taught by Speicher such that the modified system of Toy, Wise et al, and Speicher would be able to support the SQL engine to the system users.

Regarding claims 6 and 15, the modified system of Toy in view of Wise et al as stated in claim 1 above failed to teach the storage device comprises a relational database. However, Speicher teaches on column 5 line 34 “the SQL relational database software”. It would have been obvious to one skilled at the time the invention was made to modify Toy and Wise et al to include the

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storage device comprising a relational database as taught by Speicher such that the modified system of Toy and Wise et al would be able to support the relational database to the system users.

### *Response to Arguments*

6. Applicant's arguments filed on 9/13/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

- i) Applicant argues, on pages 16 and 17, the present invention claims the call server is operative to control both inbound and outbound voice-enabled communications using markup documents. However, Toy teaches on column 9 line 65 “the contact is initiated (by the system)”. The “the contact is initiated (by the system)” of Toy is the claimed “initialize a (outbound) communication” or “initiate voice-enabled communication with the at least one subscriber” (claim 19). While Wise et al teach on ABSTRACT “allows a user to access information originally formatted for audio/visual interfacing on a computer network via a simple telephone”. The “user to access” of Wise et al is the claimed “initiate voice-enabled communication with the at least one service” (claim 19). Therefore, in combination of Toy and Wise et al the “inbound and outbound” communications are taught. Applicant also argues, on second paragraph page 16, the feature of a voice service system wherein markup documents may be used to control

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voice-enabled communication regardless of whether the communications were initiated by the voice service system (e.g., outbound), or by a user (e.g., inbound). However, as the specifications disclose on line 15 page 10, “a user calling in to access voice services locates the desired active voice page. According to one embodiment, the user is automatically placed into an active voice page of a voice service that the user missed”. Therefore, for the inbound communication, the user initiates the call to the service system and locates (accesses) the voice page. This is the same as what Wise et al teach on ABSTRACT “a user can call a designated telephone number and request a (HTML) file via dual-tone multi-frequency (DTMF) signaling”. Wise et al teach a user initiates a call to the system and locates (accesses) the HTML file. Applicant also argues, on second paragraph page 17, Wise et al appear to disclose a system that enables users to request documents .. and then navigate through retrieved documents .... Wise et al do not ..... disclose at least the feature of initializing voice-enabled communications. However, again, the specifications disclose on line 15 page 10, “a user calling in to access voice services locates the desired active voice page. According to one embodiment, the user is automatically placed into an active voice page of a voice service that the user missed”. The specification discloses that the user initiates the call. The user initiates the call and will not access the voice page until the call reaches the service system. The specification did not support the inbound call is initiated by the voice-enabled markup document. In addition, regarding the newly added claim 19 claims “personalized” and “preferences”, Toy teaches on ABSTRACT “identified

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events of interest” and “notification”. The “identified events of interest” of Toy is the claimed “preference”. The “notification” of Toy’s system must be personalized”.

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

\*\*\*\*\* NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*

ANY AMENDMENT OR REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION IN RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL OFFICE ACTION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Box AF

Washington, D.C. 20231

By addressing all after final office action responses to the above address, processing time of the response is included. This will result in more timely responses by the Office and should result in fewer requests for extension of time.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to the examiner Ming Chow whose telephone number is (703) 305-4817. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang, can be reached on (703) 305-4895. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Customer Service whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be mailed to:

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

**Washington, D.C. 20231**

**Or faxed to TC2600's Customer Service FAX Number 703-872-9314.**

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Patent Examiner

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